Sharing Maritime Domain Information

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Created *06/29/2011 - 10:17*

Posted by [ISE Bloggers](#) [7] on Wednesday, June 29, 2011

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Over the last several weeks, the Joint Integration of Maritime Domain Awareness (JIMDA) Office, the National Maritime Domain Awareness Coordination Office (NMCO), and the [National Maritime Intelligence Center](#) [1] (NMIC) hosted interagency [Maritime Domain Awareness](#) [2] (MDA) events, including a conference, workshop, and tabletop exercises at the Department of Transportation in Washington DC and at NORAD/NORTHCOM in Colorado.

The PM-ISE supports this important work in information sharing, and Chief of Staff Basil ?Nick? Harris even spoke about interagency information sharing [at one of the events](#) [3]. This work advances the delivery of the Information Sharing Environment by bringing together efforts to test MDA procedures to improve the defense of North America and to secure the commercial supply chain.

Sharing MDA Information
Currently, maritime information is collected and stored by a wide variety of agencies and organizations, but a lack of interagency standards makes sharing information difficult. A goal of MDA is the effective sharing of maritime information throughout the U.S. Government and with our international partners in order to detect, deter, and defeat threats as early as possible.

A number of MDA information sharing initiatives are underway, including adoption of NIEM standards by the MDA community. The DoD Joint Test and Evaluation Program and the North American Aerospace Defense and United States Northern Command are putting in place a forward?leaning program, the Joint Integration of Maritime Domain Awareness (JIMDA) Joint Test (JT), to develop and test procedures that

allow Department of Defense (DoD) and interagency watchstanders to collaboratively collect, process, analyze, and disseminate information on vessels of interest throughout the maritime domain.

Joint Integration of Maritime Domain Awareness (JIMDA) Joint Test (JT)
JIMDA Joint Test was chartered on 5 August 2009 as a three-year project to develop and test joint Maritime Domain Awareness tactics, techniques, and procedures. The JIMDA Joint Test brings together NORAD and USNORTHCOM, the Intelligence Community, geographic Combatant Commands that border the U.S, and other homeland security-focused federal interagency, multinational, and commercial partners for a series of war games, exercises, and conferences that assess potential maritime threats by analyzing the relationships between potential threat vessels and other activities such as commercial shipping.

Using the feedback and data collected at each of the events, the JIMDA Joint Test continues to modify the Operational MDA Process and TTP in close coordination with the affected commands. Field testing for the final version for the Operational MDA Process and TTP is scheduled for January 2012, with follow-on transition to NORAD and USNORTHCOM and its component commands for implementation.

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